United Nations S/2011/398

Security Council

Distr.: General
28 April 2011

Original: English

Report of the Secretary-General concerning the credentials of the alternate representatives of South Africa on the Security Council

Pursuant to rule 15 of the provisional rules of procedure of the Security Council, the Secretary-General wishes to report that he has received a letter dated 28 April 2011 from the Permanent Representative of South Africa to the United Nations stating that Ms. Ruvama Naidoo and Ms. Nichola Nokulunga Sabelo have been appointed alternate representatives of South Africa on the Security Council.

In the opinion of the Secretary-General, that communication constitutes adequate provisional credentials.

11-40332 (E) 070711

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United Nations S/2011/399

Security Council

Distr.: General
20 June 2011

Original: English

Report of the Secretary-General concerning the credentials of the alternate representative of Germany on the Security Council

Pursuant to rule 15 of the provisional rules of procedure of the Security Council, the Secretary-General wishes to report that he has received a letter dated 20 June 2011 from the Permanent Representative of Germany to the United Nations stating that Mr. Martin Huth has been appointed alternate representative of Germany on the Security Council.

In the opinion of the Secretary-General, that communication constitutes adequate provisional credentials.

11-40338 (E) 070711

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United Nations A/65/874–S/2011/400

General Assembly
Security Council

Distr.: General
29 June 2011
English
Original: Arabic

General Assembly
Sixty-fifth session
Agenda item 36
The situation in the Middle East

Security Council
Sixty-sixth year

Identical letters dated 22 June 2011 from the Permanent Representative of Lebanon to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

On instructions from my Government, I have the honour to transmit to you herewith the position of Lebanon, in preparation for the comprehensive assessment that the Secretary-General will present in his forthcoming report on the implementation of Security Council resolution 1701 (2006) (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter issued as an official document of the sixty-fifth session of the General Assembly, under agenda item 36, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Nawaf **Salam**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

11-39542 (E) 050711 050711

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Annex to the identical letters dated 22 June 2011 from the Permanent Representative of Lebanon to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

Position of Lebanon in preparation for the comprehensive assessment that will be presented by the Secretary-General in his forthcoming report on the implementation of Security Council resolution 1701 (2006)

In preparation for the comprehensive periodic assessment that will be presented by the Secretary-General in his forthcoming report on the implementation of Security Council resolution 1701 (2006), we would like to note that ever since that resolution was adopted, it has been the custom of Lebanon to present a paper that expresses its position with respect to the comprehensive assessment of the Secretary-General. Lebanon believes that from the day resolution 1701 (2006) was adopted, Israel has failed to honour its obligation to implement it or to withdraw from all occupied Lebanese territory, and has persisted in violating Lebanese sovereignty, thereby ensuring that no progress has been made in the implementation of resolution 1701 (2006) with respect to obliging Israel to withdraw from all Lebanese territory and cease its infractions. Lebanon would like to draw attention to the following:

1. Lebanon reiterates its commitment to the full implementation of resolution 1701 (2006) and calls on the international community to bring pressure to bear on Israel to fulfil its obligation to implement that resolution in full. Since the last assessment, the Israeli enemy army has continued to violate Lebanese sovereignty in contravention of the provisions of resolution 1701 (2006). Those violations included the following:

(a) During the reporting period, the Israeli enemy army continued to violate Lebanese airspace, territory and territorial waters, committing 336 air violations, 149 land violations and 60 sea violations, in flagrant violation of Lebanese sovereignty and the provisions of resolution 1701 (2006), which calls for full respect for the Blue Line. Lebanon demands the immediate cessation of such violations.

Lebanon affirms that the some 8,362 air, sea and land violations of the Blue Line and Lebanese sovereignty committed by Israel since the adoption of resolution 1701 (2006) constitute a flagrant violation of the aforementioned resolution and all other relevant United Nations resolutions, the most important of which is Security Council resolution 425 (1978) of 19 March 1978. Between the Israeli onslaught on Lebanon in 2006 and February 2010 there were between three and four Israeli violations per day, in addition to repeated Israeli threats to destroy the infrastructure of Lebanon. Those violations threaten international peace and security and constitute a flagrant violation of the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations. Lebanon calls upon the international community to bring pressure to bear on Israel and oblige it to cease its daily violations of Lebanese sovereignty and to respect the international resolutions adopted by the United Nations.

(b) Lebanon reminds the international community yet again that Israel is seeking to undermine resolution 1701 (2006) by every means possible. On 7 December 2009, Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu declared that resolution 1701 (2006) had collapsed.

(c) On 15 May 2011, despite the heightened measures taken by the Lebanese Army in relation to the commemoration of the Nakbah in Marun al-Ra's, which is located in southern Lebanon, Israeli enemy forces fired at a group of unarmed civilians who had gathered at the above-mentioned location to observe the occasion, killing 10 persons and wounding 112 others, some critically. The killing and wounding yet again of innocent civilians by the Israeli enemy is an act of aggression and reaffirms Israel's violation of Lebanese sovereignty and its disregard of United Nations resolutions. It also reaffirms the hostile nature of Israel, which has never hesitated to arbitrarily use force against civilians, in flagrant violation of international laws and norms, including international humanitarian law. Lebanon calls on the Security Council to shoulder its responsibility to maintain international peace and security. The Council should bring pressure to bear on Israel in order to compel it to end both its hostile policy towards Lebanon and its acts of provocation, and to hold it responsible for attacking and killing civilians.

(d) The networks of spies that were recruited by the Israeli enemy constitute a blatant aggression against Lebanon, an attack on its sovereignty and a flagrant violation thereof that contravenes international resolutions and, in particular, Security Council resolution 1701 (2006). More than 150 collaborators were recruited by Israel in order to assist its intelligence apparatus, and were under orders to undertake sabotage operations both within and beyond the areas of Lebanon in which the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL) is deployed. Those spy networks threatened national security by infiltrating Lebanese society and civil and military institutions through the recruitment of collaborators to work in the interests of Israeli intelligence. Those collaborators were ordered to undertake sabotage operations that included the detonation of explosives, the assassination of prominent Lebanese citizens, terrorist activities and attacks on Lebanese infrastructure. The networks, by using the collaborators to gain control over the Lebanese fixed and cellular communications network and eavesdrop on Lebanese citizens, also constituted an infringement of the security of communications in Lebanon that continues to this day, given that those collaborators provided Israel with the frequencies of mobile telephone operators and their base transceiver stations and the passwords of their servers, in addition to providing precise, in-depth studies on the operational procedures of mobile stations. Lebanon lodged a complaint with the Security Council with regard to the spy networks that were cultivated in Lebanon by Israel, in which it detailed some of the sabotage operations that they carried out on the direct orders of the Israeli intelligence services. In that connection, the International Telecommunication Union Plenipotentiary Conference that was held in Mexico condemned Israeli piracy against the telecommunications sector in Lebanon.

(e) UNIFIL continues to exert every possible effort to ensure that Israeli forces withdraw completely from the area known as 14B, which is the Lebanese part of the village of Ghajar and the uninhabited adjacent area, and the Lebanese Government is continuing to cooperate with UNIFIL with a view to achieving that aim. Notwithstanding those efforts, the Israeli army continues to occupy the aforementioned area, in flagrant violation of its obligations under Security Council

resolution 1701 (2006), which provides that Israel must withdraw immediately and unconditionally from the village of Ghajar. Israel's procrastination with regard to withdrawal from the area known as 14B compels us to question the sincerity of Israel's commitment to implementation of that resolution and the extent to which the Security Council is capable of obliging that country to end its occupation. It is incumbent upon the international community to take action to ensure that Israel completely withdraws from the Lebanese part of the village of Ghajar and area 14B as soon as possible. The Israeli Government is attempting to temporize, regardless of the fact that such withdrawal does not constitute a concession, but is one of the key requirements of Security Council resolution 1701 (2006).

(f) Lebanon believes that the continued occupation by Israel of the Lebanese Shab'a Farms and Kafr Shuba hills constitutes a threat to stability and security. Lebanon requests the international community to bring pressure to bear on Israel to completely and unconditionally withdraw from all Lebanese territory, and urges the Secretary-General of the United Nations to intensify his efforts to ensure that Israel withdraws from that territory. Lebanon reminds the international community that, under the provisions of the relevant Security Council resolutions, Israel is obliged to withdraw from the Shab'a Farms and Kafr Shuba hills.

(g) Lebanon would like to bring to the attention of the international community yet again the fact that the maps relating to cluster bombs that Lebanon has received from Israel are incomplete and imprecise. Israel dropped those bombs randomly on densely populated civilian areas, thereby causing the death or injury of more than 400 persons, including 47 fatalities and 353 cases of severe and disabling injury. It should once more be underlined that the Government of Lebanon had its doubts about the precision of the maps that it received from Israel, and demands that information should be provided regarding the dates on which the cluster bombs that were used during the Israeli raids were dropped, together with the quantity and type of those bombs. It should also once again be stressed that the Lebanese Army has asked for aerial photographs or video footage of the targeted areas before and after the bombardments. Israel bears entire responsibility and should pay compensation for the deaths of numerous Lebanese citizens that have been caused by the cluster bombs and unexploded ammunition that were dropped by Israel during its onslaught on Lebanon, and for the numerous crimes that Israel has committed against Lebanon and its people. Lebanon urges the United Nations and donor countries to continue to address that issue, in order to protect the lives of innocent civilians, and to call for the Lebanon Mine Action Centre to be granted the necessary financial resources to enable it to carry out its mandate.

(h) The Israeli army has continued to use launches to conduct illegal patrols inside Lebanese territorial waters close to the so-called "line of buoys" that was positioned unilaterally and illicitly inside those waters. Israel makes the fraudulent claim that those buoys approximate the southern border of Lebanese territorial waters. The Israeli army has also continued to fire warning shots and launch grenades at Lebanese fishing boats. Furthermore, it regularly detonates explosive charges close to the aforementioned line, inside Lebanese territorial waters. In his twelfth report on the implementation of Security Council resolution 1701 (2006) (S/2010/105), paragraph 29, the Secretary-General warned that those Israeli measures contribute to increasing tension between the parties. Lebanon does not recognize any line that has been put in place unilaterally, and considers that the Israeli measures are a further violation of Lebanese sovereignty and Security

Council resolution 1701 (2006). Lebanon requests the United Nations to authorize UNIFIL to put in position in the region a line of buoys that is in keeping with international standards.

(i) On 9 July 2010, Lebanon deposited with the United Nations a map on which the southern maritime border with occupied Palestine is clearly marked, together with the exclusive economic zone of Lebanon. The geographical coordinates of the borders, which were set forth in accordance with international standards, are specified. On 11 October 2010, Lebanon also deposited with the United Nations two maps designating the south-western maritime borders of the aforementioned economic zone, together with two tables in which are set forth the geographical coordinates of those borders. In letters dated 4 January and 17 February 2011, the Minister for Foreign Affairs and Emigrants requested the Secretary-General to instruct UNIFIL, in keeping with its mandate under relevant United Nations resolutions, and in coordination with the Lebanese Army, to demarcate a maritime security line similar to the Blue Line it has established on land. Such a line should correspond to the southern and south-western boundaries of the territorial waters and exclusive economic zone of Lebanon. That would be consistent with the role already played by UNIFIL in demarcating Lebanon's land borders.

2. The Lebanese Army is continuing to strengthen field and strategic cooperation with UNIFIL.

(a) The coordination between the Lebanese Army and UNIFIL is particularly evident in their joint patrols, joint checkpoints and joint military training operations and exercises.

(b) Lebanon stresses the fact that none of the reports of the Secretary-General on the implementation of Security Council resolution 1701 (2006) has made any reference to indications that weapons are being smuggled into the UNIFIL area of operations. All weapons that have been seized are remnants of the war waged against Lebanon by Israel in the summer of 2006. Lebanon further stresses once again that the Lebanese Army and the Lebanese security apparatus have not reported any incidence of weapon smuggling since the most recent report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of Security Council resolution 1701 (2006) was submitted to the Security Council.

(c) Israel's claim that weapons are being stockpiled and military installations established in densely populated civilian areas in South Lebanon bears no relation to the truth, and is designed to facilitate the targeting by Israel of innocent Lebanese civilians and justify their slaughter and terrorization, regardless of the fact that all international instruments and, in particular, those of international humanitarian law, outlaw and criminalize the targeting of civilians.

(d) Lebanon continues to participate in tripartite meetings that are held with a view to maintaining peace along the Blue Line. Those meetings are the appropriate forum in which to address issues pending from resolution 1701 (2006) and flashpoints along the aforementioned Line. Israel's persistence in resorting to unilateral measures undermines those tripartite meetings and the role of UNIFIL in maintaining the peace in its area of operations. Furthermore, those unilateral measures are intended to raise doubt as to the capacity of the Lebanese armed forces

to defend the sovereignty of all Lebanese territory, contrary to the spirit of resolution 1701 (2006).

(e) With respect to the positioning of markers along the Blue Line, Lebanon affirms yet again the agreement that was reached at the tripartite meeting with a view to making progress in and accelerating that operation. Israeli procrastination in that regard raises doubts as to its real intentions.

3. Lebanon stresses the importance of strengthening and raising the level of international assistance in building the capacities of the Lebanese Army and security forces and preparing them to perform their duty to defend Lebanese sovereignty and protect the Lebanese people. The Lebanese Army needs reinforcements of arms and ammunition and to acquire more modern means of surveillance and up-to-date communications equipment. It also requires training in the use of all such equipment and apparatus.

4. Notwithstanding the limited capacities and resources of the Lebanese Army, the Government of Lebanon has decided to deploy two additional battalions south of the Litani river, in order to further demonstrate its commitment to the implementation of resolution 1701 (2006).

5. At the economic level, we once more support the call that is made to the international community in resolution 1701 (2006) to extend more of the assistance that is necessary for the reconstruction and development of Lebanon. In that connection, we urge States that took part in the Stockholm Conference, Paris III and the Vienna Conference to honour their commitments. Lebanon greatly appreciates all economic and social programmes and humanitarian assistance that UNIFIL provides to the Lebanese people in its area of operations, including quick-impact projects and emergency medical services.

6. If stability and security are to be reinforced, there must be a transition from the situation of a cessation of hostilities to a state of permanent ceasefire.

United Nations S/2011/401

Security Council

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30 June 2011

Original: English

Letter dated 29 June 2011 from the Permanent Representative of Bosnia and Herzegovina to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

I have the honour to transmit herewith a report on the work of the Security Council during the presidency of Bosnia and Herzegovina in January 2011 (see annex). The report was prepared under my national responsibility, following consultation with the other members of the Security Council.

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Ivan **Barbalić**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

11-39714 (E) 140711

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Annex to the letter dated 29 June 2011 from the Permanent Representative of Bosnia and Herzegovina to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

Assessment of the work of the Security Council during the presidency of Bosnia and Herzegovina (January 2011)

Introduction

During the month of January 2011, under the presidency of Ambassador Ivan Barbalić, Permanent Representative of Bosnia and Herzegovina to the United Nations, the Security Council held 8 consultations of the whole and 10 formal public meetings. The Council adopted one resolution and two presidential statements, and issued seven statements to the press.

The Council observed a minute of silence at the start of its meeting on 14 January in memory of victims of the devastating earthquake that struck Haiti on 12 January 2010, and a minute of silence during its meeting on 25 January in memory of the victims of the heinous terrorist act perpetrated at Domodedovo International Airport in Moscow on 24 January.

Africa

Côte d'Ivoire

On 5 January, the Under-Secretary-General for Peacekeeping Operations, Alain Le Roy, briefed the Security Council on recent developments in Côte d'Ivoire and his visit to that West African country. The Under-Secretary-General reported that the United Nations Operation in Côte d'Ivoire (UNOCI) was in a difficult position: UNOCI personnel, vehicles and premises were targets of attacks, several UNOCI soldiers had been injured, there were obstacles to UNOCI freedom of movement, UNOCI supply routes were blocked, and there was a strong State media campaign against UNOCI. The Under-Secretary-General informed the Council about the worrying humanitarian situation, with 21,000 refugees having fled from Côte d'Ivoire to neighbouring countries, especially Liberia.

The Under-Secretary-General informed Council members about the second visit to Côte d'Ivoire (made on 3 January 2011) by the delegation of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS): the President of Benin, Mr. Boni Yayi; the President of Cape Verde, Mr. Pedro Rodrigues Pires; and the President of Sierra Leone, Mr. Ernest Bai Koroma, together with the Prime Minister of Kenya, Mr. Raila Odinga, on behalf of the African Union. Following the efforts of the African Union and ECOWAS delegation, limited progress had been made by the two sides to open negotiations.

During subsequent consultations of the whole, Security Council members welcomed the diplomatic efforts of ECOWAS and the African Union for a peaceful solution to the post-election crisis in Côte d'Ivoire. They strongly condemned all attacks on UNOCI and called on all Ivorian stakeholders to refrain from obstructing the Operation in the implementation of its mandate. Council members also expressed concern regarding the reported civilian casualties and violations of human rights. Some members of the Council pointed out that unless the situation improved,

targeted sanctions measures against responsible individuals should be taken into consideration.

On 7 January, the Secretary-General, in a letter to the President of the Security Council (S/2011/5), indicated that the security situation in Côte d'Ivoire had continued to deteriorate and that UNOCI was working in an openly hostile security environment. The Secretary-General recommended that the Council authorize a temporary increase in military personnel strength of 2,000 troops.

On 10 January, the members of the Security Council agreed to issue a statement to the press in which they expressed their support for the efforts by the African Union and ECOWAS in seeking a peaceful resolution of the crisis in Côte d'Ivoire. The members of the Council expressed their deep concern regarding the continued violence against civilians and UNOCI, and condemned deliberate attempts to impede the Operation in fulfilling its mandate. They deplored the ongoing blockade around the Golf Hotel and urged Mr. Laurent Gbagbo to honour his pledge to the joint African Union-Economic Community of West African States mission to lift it immediately. They reiterated the readiness of the Security Council to impose measures, including targeted sanctions against persons who threatened the peace process, obstructed the work of UNOCI or committed serious violations of human rights. The members of the Council underscored their strong desire that the crisis be resolved peacefully.

On 19 January, the Security Council unanimously adopted resolution 1967 (2011), authorizing: additional troops for UNOCI until 30 June 2011; the extension until 30 June 2011 of the temporary additional military and police capabilities authorized by resolution 1942 (2010); the extension by up to four additional weeks of the temporary redeployment from the United Nations Mission in Liberia (UNMIL) to UNOCI of three infantry companies and one aviation unit comprising two military helicopters; and the transfer of three armed helicopters with crews from UNMIL to UNOCI for a period of four weeks. The Council demanded that all parties respect the safety of UNOCI, ensure its freedom of movement and halt the use of media to incite hatred and violence, in particular against UNOCI. The Council also urged that the ongoing blockade around the Golf Hotel be lifted without delay. In addition, it reiterated its readiness to impose measures, including targeted sanctions, against those who obstructed the work of UNOCI.

Sudan

On 6 January, the Security Council held consultations of the whole on the Sudan. The Under-Secretary-General for Peacekeeping Operations briefed the Council on the situation in the Sudan and the status of the preparations for the referendum for Southern Sudan. The Under-Secretary-General reported that the preparations were on track and praised the parties and the Southern Sudan Referendum Commission for making the referendum a reality. He expressed concern about the lack of an agreement on Abyei and underlined the importance of the resolution by the parties of outstanding issues related to the Comprehensive Peace Agreement before the end of the interim period, by July 2011. He expressed concern over heightened tensions in Darfur as well as clashes between the Government of the Sudan forces and rebel groups, and reported that approximately 40,000 civilians had been displaced in December. The Under-Secretary-General reported that, in response to continued obstructions of its freedom of movement, the African Union-

United Nations Hybrid Operation in Darfur (UNAMID) was implementing a more robust posture. He also reported that the UNAMID staff member kidnapped on 7 October had been released. He said it was essential that all parties redouble their efforts to achieve lasting peace in Darfur.

The members of the Security Council welcomed the progress made towards the Southern Sudan referendum and commended the United Nations Mission in the Sudan (UNMIS) on its efforts in providing logistical support and assistance. They urged the parties to continue their cooperation throughout the referendum as well as in the post-referendum period in order to resolve outstanding issues. Council members expressed their concern about the absence of progress in reaching an agreement on Abyei. They expressed support for the peace process for Darfur led by the African Union and the United Nations, and urged all groups to join the process without delay.

The members of the Security Council agreed on a statement to the press in which they welcomed the reaffirmation by the Sudanese parties of their commitment to the full and timely implementation of the Comprehensive Peace Agreement, including their commitment to respect the outcome of the Southern Sudan referendum; reaffirmed support for the work of the Secretary-General's Panel on the Referenda in the Sudan; and expressed deep concern about the absence of an agreement on Abyei and the increase in violence in Darfur.

On 18 January, the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for the Sudan, Mr. Haile Menkerios, briefed the Security Council by means of videoconference from Khartoum, and the Chair of the Secretary-General's Panel on the Referenda in the Sudan, Mr. Benjamin Mkapa, joined the meeting by means of videoconference from Juba. The Special Representative reported that the referendum had concluded as planned without significant security incidents. The Southern Sudan Referendum Commission would announce preliminary results on 2 February, the final results on 7 February and results after any appeals on 14 February. He expressed concern about the lack of an agreement on Abyei and stressed that uncertainty over that issue continued to threaten peace and stability on the ground. He reported on incidents and clashes between Ngok Dinka police forces and Misseriya communities in northern Abyei on 7 and 8 January, and emphasized that UNMIS had increased its presence in Abyei. The parties to the Comprehensive Peace Agreement had agreed to improve security in Abyei and to completely disarm all communities in the region. The Special Representative said that much remained to be done with regard to resolving outstanding issues in the final six months of the Agreement, and underlined the need for the United Nations and the international community to continue their support for the parties. The Chair of the Panel on the Referenda in the Sudan reported that the Panel was satisfied that the referendum process had been conducted in a peaceful and transparent manner. Voting procedures had been properly followed, and the Panel had found no evidence of any systematic or widespread attempts to undermine the polling process. The Panel was following the aggregation of the results and the final phase of the referendum process. The Panel urged the authorities to keep citizens informed of progress towards the final results.

The members of the Security Council welcomed the peaceful and credible referendum process. They expressed their concerns about clashes in Abyei and the lack of progress in reaching an agreement on the Area's status. They commended

UNMIS and the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for their efforts in reducing tensions in Abyei. The members called on the parties to reach an agreement on outstanding issues including Abyei. They expressed concern with regard to the situation in Darfur, voiced support for the peace process for Darfur led by the African Union and the United Nations, and urged all groups to join the process without delay.

The Permanent Representative of the Sudan, Daffa-Alla Elhag Ali Osman, addressed the Security Council and said the free, fair and transparent referendum process was a sign of extensive cooperation between the parties to the Comprehensive Peace Agreement. With regard to the situation in Abyei, he said that without an acceptable solution to the situation on the ground, there would not be peace in that region. Regarding Darfur, he said it was crucial that the Council urge the insurgent movements to join the peace process in Doha.

After the public briefing, the Security Council held closed consultations. The Special Representative and the Chair of the Panel joined the meeting by video link.

The members of the Security Council agreed on a statement to the press in which they welcomed the conclusion of a largely peaceful and orderly voting period for the Southern Sudan referendum; deplored the violence that had occurred in Abyei and reiterated their deep concern about the absence of an agreement on Abyei; stressed the importance of continued implementation of the Comprehensive Peace Agreement and urged the parties to reach an agreement on Abyei and other critical issues; expressed their deep concern at the increase in violence and insecurity in Darfur and urged all parties to cease hostilities; recalled the importance of ending impunity and of justice for crimes committed in Darfur; and reaffirmed support for the peace process for Darfur led by the African Union and the United Nations.

On 26 January, the Security Council heard a briefing by the Assistant Secretary-General for Peacekeeping Operations, Mr. Atul Khare, and by the Joint African Union-United Nations Special Representative for Darfur, Mr. Ibrahim Gambari, who joined the meeting by means of videoconference from El Fasher, Northern Darfur.

The Assistant Secretary-General, discussing the referendum in Southern Sudan, said that all ballots had been counted adding that results would be announced by the Southern Sudan Referendum Commission within the declared timelines. He said that the referendum in Abyei had not taken place, noting that tensions between Ngok Dinka and Misseriya communities remained high. UNMIS continued its activities to deter a return to violence. With regard to Darfur, he reported that the African Union-United Nations Sudan Consultative Forum had agreed to begin planning for a Darfur political process, which would be based on the outcomes of the Doha process.

The Joint Special Representative reported that UNAMID and the humanitarian community had worked intensively to address consequences of the clashes between the Sudanese Armed Forces and the Sudan Liberation Army-Minni Manawi. He said that UNAMID was implementing a more robust posture, adding that UNAMID would continue to patrol Jebel Marra. He underlined the fact that UNAMID continued to exercise its protection strategy on the basis of maintaining a robust presence in areas of potential hostilities and providing direct protection.

After the public briefing, the Security Council held closed consultations. The Joint Special Representative and the Assistant Secretary-General joined the meeting.

Somalia

On 14 January, at an open meeting, the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Somalia, Augustine Mahiga, introduced the report of the Secretary-General on Somalia (S/2010/675) and briefed the Council about the latest developments in that country. He informed the Council that the Transitional Federal Government had completed its first budget and a draft road map setting out the key transitional tasks on which it would focus until the end of August 2011. These included good governance, institution-building and providing basic services to citizens. He emphasized the constitution-drafting process and reconciliation as key priorities. He highlighted the gaps in the logistical support package provided to the African Union Mission in Somalia (AMISOM) and encouraged Member States to make further contributions to the United Nations Trust Fund for AMISOM.

The Council then received a briefing from the Prime Minister of the Transitional Federal Government, Mohamed Abdullahi Mohamed, who informed members of the challenges faced by his Government and stressed the need for greater assistance from the international community.

In the consultations of the whole that followed, Security Council members expressed their support for the Transitional Federal Government. They encouraged greater progress in the completion of the outstanding transition tasks. Members of the Council expressed their support for the work of AMISOM and the increase in the number of AMISOM troops.

Members of the Security Council agreed to issue a statement to the press in which they expressed their concern over the continued instability in Somalia. They also expressed their support for the Djibouti Agreement and for the work of the Special Representative in helping Somalis work towards post-transitional arrangements.

Piracy off the coast of Somalia

On 25 January, the Security Council heard a briefing on piracy off the coast of Somalia from the Special Adviser to the Secretary-General on Legal Issues related to Piracy off the Coast of Somalia, Jack Lang, and, the Assistant Secretary-General for Legal Affairs, Stephen Mathias.

The Special Adviser informed the Council that the situation had deteriorated because pirate attacks had become more violent, were being carried out with more sophisticated equipment, had become better organized and had been geographically expanded towards the southern and eastern Indian Ocean. He proposed a series of measures to overcome the legal obstacles to the prosecution and imprisonment of pirates. The Special Adviser underlined the importance of social and economic development in providing young Somalis with an alternative to piracy.

Security Council members expressed their concern regarding undiminished piracy activities and stressed the need to take urgent and decisive measures to fight piracy before it affected the stability of the entire region. They considered the proposals referred to by the Special Adviser to be a good basis for the consideration of further measures to be taken in the fight against piracy. Council members

welcomed proposals for specialized piracy courts and regional economic development.

Asia and Latin America

Nepal

On 5 January, 10 days before the conclusion of the four-year mandate of the United Nations Mission in Nepal (UNMIN), the Security Council heard a briefing from the Special Representative of the Secretary-General and Head of UNMIN, Karin Landgren, on the situation in the country. The Special Representative stated that although the peace process was still incomplete, the Mission had performed its mandated tasks and contributed significantly to the peace process. She underlined the fact that UNMIN had been an expression of the international community's support for and investment in Nepal's peace process. She informed the Council that there was still no established mechanism to which UNMIN could hand over its monitoring responsibilities and that major issues pertaining to integration and rehabilitation remained unresolved. She said that the matter of the Nepal peace process would remain on the Council's agenda for three more years and the United Nations would remain engaged and continue to make its contribution to the success of the peace process.

Following the presentation by the Special Representative, the Permanent Representative of Nepal, Ambassador Gyan Chandra Acharya, stated that the Mission had been a positive factor in the difficult context of the peace process and expressed sincere appreciation for its dedication and contributions. He also announced that the Government of Nepal had already made necessary preparations with a view to making the constitutionally formed Special Committee a body capable of taking over all the tasks of UNMIN in a seamless manner.

Following these briefings, the members of the Security Council held consultations of the whole on the situation in Nepal. Members of the Council thanked the Special Representative and the UNMIN team for their efforts in assisting the people of Nepal as they worked to complete the peace process. Members of the Council also reaffirmed their support for the peace process.

On 14 January, the Security Council adopted a presidential statement (S/PRST/2011/1) in which it, inter alia, reaffirmed its support for the peace process and called on the caretaker Government of Nepal and all political parties to redouble their efforts, to continue to work together in the spirit of consensus to fulfil the commitments that they had made in the Comprehensive Peace Agreement and other agreements, and to resolve expeditiously the outstanding issues of the peace process. The Council also encouraged Nepal to complete its new constitution within the foreseen time frame to help it build a better, more equitable and democratic future for its people. The Council welcomed the ongoing engagement of the Secretary-General and United Nations bodies as they continued to support the peace process and the people of Nepal.

United Nations Regional Centre for Preventive Diplomacy for Central Asia

On 13 January, the Security Council held consultations on the work of the United Nations Regional Centre for Preventive Diplomacy for Central Asia. The consultations opened with a briefing by the Special Representative of the Secretary-

General for Central Asia, Mr. Miroslav Jenča. He informed the Council that the Centre had successfully supported the electoral process in Kyrgyzstan which had been followed by the establishment of the new Government of Kyrgyzstan. He also informed the Council that the rule of law and constitutional reform were the main priorities for the forthcoming period.

Following an exchange of views among Council members, the President of the Security Council read an agreed statement to the press expressing appreciation for the efforts of the Regional Centre in assisting Central Asian countries in responding to regional challenges, in accordance with its mandate, including with regard to the situation in Kyrgyzstan, the implementation of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy and solutions to water and energy management through regional cooperation. The members of the Council reaffirmed the need to provide appropriate support for the efforts of the Regional Centre to facilitate dialogue and assist the Governments of Central Asia on regional issues of common concern to them.

Haiti

On 12 January, the one-year anniversary of the devastating earthquake in Haiti, the members of the Security Council agreed to a statement to the press in which they extended their condolences to the families of those killed and their deepest concern for all those whose lives continued to be touched by the tragedy; voiced their strong support for the continued efforts of the United Nations Stabilization Mission in Haiti (MINUSTAH) to assist the people of Haiti in recovering from the disaster, in addition to the other mandated tasks of the Mission; reaffirmed their sustained international support for Haiti; and called for the swift disbursement of remaining pledges in support of the country's recovery.

On 14 January, the Security Council observed a moment of silence in memory of the victims of the devastating earthquake that had struck Haiti a year earlier, on 12 January 2010.

On 20 January, the Under-Secretary-General for Peacekeeping Operations, Alain Le Roy, and the Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief Coordinator, Valerie Amos, briefed the Security Council on the situation in Haiti.

The Under-Secretary-General for Peacekeeping Operations reported that the overall security situation in Haiti remained calm but fragile, given the ongoing electoral dispute. He said that the mission of electoral experts from the Organization of American States (OAS) had delivered its report to the Government of Haiti on 13 January and added that the Provisional Electoral Council intended to announce the final results of the first round of voting on 31 January. He underlined the importance of the swift resolution of the current political crisis, adding that the Provisional Electoral Council should uphold its commitment to take fully into account the recommendations contained in the report aimed at addressing problems in the first round of voting. He informed the Council about the return to Haiti of the former President, Jean-Claude Duvalier, noting that Government prosecutors had filed a complaint against Mr. Duvalier. He expressed his appreciation to the Haitian National Police for its conduct in the very difficult period for Haiti. He said that MINUSTAH continued to work closely with the national police.

The Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs emphasized that the humanitarian situation in Haiti remained dire. However, she said that, bearing in mind the devastation caused by the earthquake as well as Haiti's pre-existing difficulties, the United Nations humanitarian agencies, MINUSTAH, the International Committee of the Red Cross and non-governmental organizations had accomplished a great deal in providing assistance to the people of Haiti. She said that 800,000 people remained in camps, adding that drinking water had been delivered to 1.2 million people daily and food to 2 million people every month. With regard to the cholera outbreak, she said the disease had affected almost 200,000 people and that more than 3,700 had died. She reported that lack of adequate water, sanitation and health-care infrastructure had created conditions that had allowed the disease to spread. She said that humanitarian agencies were prepared to stand by the poorest Haitians for as long as necessary.

The Deputy Permanent Representative of Haiti, Jean Wesley Cazeau, thanked the donors and all those involved in providing assistance to his country. He recalled that there remained much to be done to address urgent challenges for the country, and called on the international community for its continued support and patience.

The members of the Security Council underlined the fact that political stability was a basic precondition for recovery, reconstruction and development. They took note of the report of the OAS mission and called for the electoral process to be completed in an adequate manner. The electoral process must be fair, free and transparent, and must reflect the will of the Haitian people. They urged Haitian authorities to continue to strengthen the rule of law and ensure calm among the population. They commended MINUSTAH for its support for the electoral process and the country's overall security and stability. They stressed the importance of the coordinating role of the Interim Haiti Recovery Commission and called on international donors to fulfil their pledges for the recovery of Haiti.

Middle East

The situation in the Middle East, including the Palestinian question

On 19 January, the Security Council held an open debate on the situation in the Middle East, including the Palestinian question, during which it heard a briefing from the Under-Secretary-General for Political Affairs, B. Lynn Pascoe. In his briefing, the Under-Secretary-General expressed serious concern at the continuing lack of progress in the search for a negotiated settlement and reiterated the Secretary-General's call on Israel to freeze all settlement activity, in conformity with international law and the road map. With regard to Gaza, the Under-Secretary-General expressed concern over the situation that had prevailed in the previous month, including an increase in tensions, and condemned the indiscriminate firing of projectiles towards Israeli civilian areas by Palestinian militants, while stressing that all parties must refrain from actions contrary to international humanitarian law that targeted or endangered civilians. He also reminded the Council that a fundamental goal of the United Nations continued to be the revitalization of Gaza's economy and the search for an end to the Israeli closure policy.

Turning to the situation in Lebanon, the Under-Secretary-General said that the political crisis there, which had been provoked by divergent views on the Special Tribunal for Lebanon, had continued to deepen. He said that the Secretary-General had reiterated his call on all parties not to interfere with or influence the Special

Tribunal, stressing that the independent judicial process should not be linked with any political debate and that it was important not to prejudice its outcome.

Following the briefing, the Council also heard statements by the Permanent Observer for Palestine, Council members and 25 other speakers. Most speakers urged both the Israeli and Palestinian sides to resume direct negotiations towards a two-State solution. Many speakers called on Israel to halt all settlement activity, underlined the need for further steps to ease restrictions on the flow of goods and people in and out of Gaza in accordance with Security Council resolution 1860 (2009), condemned rocket fire from Gaza, and called for progress on intra-Palestinian reconciliation. With respect to Lebanon, many speakers called on all Lebanese parties to seek a negotiated political solution to the current situation and expressed support for the independence of the Special Tribunal for Lebanon.

Other matters

Briefing by the Department of Political Affairs

On 10 January, the Under-Secretary-General for Political Affairs briefed the Security Council on elections to be held in Africa in 2011 that had possible implications for international peace and security. The Under-Secretary-General informed the Council that 25 elections were scheduled in African countries in 2011. He said that the role of the United Nations, together with its partner organizations, would be to provide technical assistance in the electoral process and stressed that the process itself should be locally owned. He underlined the importance of cooperation with the regional actors, the African Union and ECOWAS.

Members of the Security Council shared their views on strengthening democracy in Africa through electoral processes. They agreed that possible implications of electoral processes for international peace and security should be considered on a case-by-case basis.

Post-conflict peacebuilding: institution-building

On 21 January, the Security Council held an open debate on "Post-conflict peacebuilding: institution-building". The Secretary-General briefed the Security Council, together with the Deputy Prime Minister of Timor-Leste, José Luis Guterres, and the Permanent Representative of Germany, Peter Wittig, who addressed the Council in his capacity as Chair of the Peacebuilding Commission.

The Secretary-General said that institution-building was a difficult task in post-conflict societies and that the international record on this issue was mixed. He underlined the fact that building legitimate institutions represented a key element of institution-building. The Secretary-General emphasized that the three most important lessons in the process were: (a) there was a need to strengthen national ownership and build on existing institutions, while capacities of the international community needed to be focused on nurturing and developing national capacities, strengthening partnerships and more flexible financing; (b) a one-size-fits-all approach must be avoided, institutional change should not be approached as a merely technical exercise, and informal norms and values needed to be an integral part of the institution-building process; and (c) striking the right balance between short-term and long-term goals was critical. He also emphasized that cooperation among peacekeeping and special political missions, regional organizations and other

partners must be better coordinated to ensure smoother transitions, which implied clear and achievable mission mandates.

The Deputy Prime Minister of Timor-Leste spoke in his national capacity as well as on behalf of the Group of Seven Plus. He stressed the importance of prioritization in peacebuilding and, accordingly, institution-building processes. He emphasized that (a) programmes of the international community were not matched with the needs of post-conflict countries; (b) direct aid with regard to institution-building should be provided by working with the institutions in question; (c) results must be visible and reforms actionable; and (d) international partners should not impose their perspectives regarding peace and development on post-conflict countries, but needed to be engaged longer and to be more flexible in transitional and uncertain environments, while institutions must be fit for purpose and be rooted in local society.

The Chair of the Peacebuilding Commission, said that (a) national ownership should stand at the beginning of every institutional-building effort; (b) common institutional understanding and institution-building went beyond power-sharing and included the roles of women and civil society; (c) the Commission should be more focused on institution-building issues, with regard to which it could be more engaged as a political forum, while support for national capacity development should be at the core of institution-building efforts.

Statements by the members of the Security Council and other United Nations Member States reflected mainly points made by the briefers. Members underlined the importance of national ownership, together with building upon and greater use of existing national capacities. They stressed that the Council should continue to define clear and achievable mandates for United Nations missions, employing adequate capacities and enhancing interaction with relevant stakeholders. It was also emphasized that there was a need to define mechanisms that might help in prioritizing peacebuilding tasks. Better coordination within the United Nations system and an integrated approach were recognized as essential elements of successful peacebuilding and institution-building efforts. Another element was often repeated during the debate: the importance of greater integration for the efficient planning of peacekeeping missions and United Nations programmes and funds. When speaking about the role and engagement of the Commission, many States acknowledged that the Security Council should make greater use of the Commission's advisory role.

The Security Council adopted a presidential statement (S/PRST/2011/2) in which it stressed the importance of institution-building as a critical component of peacebuilding and emphasized the importance of a more effective and coherent national and international effort to that end; it also emphasized that the United Nations and the international community needed to be more effective and coordinated in assessing needs and planning for effective institution-building and could play a critical role in support of building national institutions, while emphasizing that the primary responsibility for successful peacebuilding lay with Governments and relevant national actors. The Council stressed its willingness to make greater use of the advisory role of the Peacebuilding Commission and reaffirmed the critical importance of timely, flexible and predictable funding for peacebuilding, including institution- and capacity-building.

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Letter dated 30 June 2011 from the Permanent Representative of France to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to refer to Security Council resolution 1973 (2011), adopted on 17 March, as well as my letters of 18 March (S/2011/150), 22 March (S/2011/175), 29 March (S/2011/212) and 26 April 2011 (S/2011/274) concerning the measures authorized by paragraphs 4 and 8 of resolution 1973 (2011) "to protect civilians and civilian populated areas under threat of attack" and "to enforce compliance with the ban on flights imposed by paragraph 6" (of the resolution).

I wish to inform you that France has recently taken an additional measure in accordance with paragraph 4 of resolution 1973 (2011): airdrops of self-defence weapons for the civilian populations that have been victims of attacks by Libyan armed forces, in the absence of any other operational means of protecting these populations under threat.

I should be grateful if this letter could be circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Gérard **Araud**

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